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CULTIVATION OF MIND.

BY THOMAS SPENCER.

No. 5.

Every mental faculty has its appropriate object—that which calls it into existence. It has its own sphere of activity. Beyond that sphere it can do nothing. The eye has to do with color—the ear with sound. The ear can not see—the eye can not hear—the finger ends can not smell. The memory is conversant with the past alone. So every faculty has certain limits assigned to the sphere of its activity. Yet let it not be supposed that these faculties are parts of the mind; they are its powers—what it can do. It is not that one part of the soul sees, another remembers, another compares. But the whole mind does each of these acts. And it performs the acts in such a way that the activity of one faculty does not promote the activity of any other any farther than it imparts vigor to the whole intellect. Each power is directly strengthened by exercise on its appropriate object. And whatever directly strengthens one faculty indirectly adds vigor to all the rest.

The few simple laws of mind enable us to determine the true theory of education. Any system not based on these principles must be radically defective. All success in cultivating the mind depends upon obedience to these laws of mental activity and progress. With these laws in view, the educator may with hope and courage enter upon his great work—choose his text books—assign his lessons—conduct his recitations, and make his rules.

The first question he has to decide on receiving a pupil is, what studies shall I assign this pupil? What subjects will be best adapted to excite the greatest number of faculties to activity? What objects shall I place before him to arrest his attention and rouse his thoughts, and call into excercise his mental energies. On his answer to this question will depend his success or failure with that pupil.

And let the teacher bear in mind that the education of his youngest scholar does not begin in his schoolroom. It began years ago in its mother's arms. The child has already made great progress in mental culture. It has mastered one most difficult branch of training. It can speak the English language. It can readily distinguish forms, colors, sizes, motions, distances, and various qualities of objects of sight and sound around him. The little student has also made great progress in the knowledge of human character, and of the right and wrong of actions. His mind is awake, active and vigorous.

Now how shall the teacher carry forward the culture of this young intellect?

One thing he certainly will not do. He will not shut up a company of these children, whose eyes and ears are open and impatient for something to see and hear, in a poorly lighted room, on hard seats, with nothing to see but bare walls and unintelligible characters in old books; nothing to hear but the scolding voice of a heartless, brainless teacher. He will not do this, unless his object is to paralyze their active minds and torture their bodies. Yet little better than this are many of the district schools in this State. If the object was to dry up the gushing fountains of childish hearts and intellects, and make them forever disgusted with books and schools, it could not be much more effectually performed. It would be far better for these growing minds to run in the fields and woods. The silent clouds and skies, the trees, the brooks, the animals, the winds—all would rouse their souls more than any thing they find in such schoolrooms as are frequently provided and furnished for our children.

The infant is as truly gaining an education, when he takes his first trembling steps from the chair to his mother's knee, as the boy when first he tries his awkward fingers in the art, so curious and difficult, of making crooked marks so as to form letters and words. Education includes as well teaching a girl how to sew, to spin, to weave, to cook, wash and iron, to make and mend, to tend the baby and please the younger ones, as music or painting, French, Italian or German.

Many a man who knows not a letter has a far better education for all useful purposes than many another who has spent weary years poring over books. And why? He can *do* something. The other can not.

It is indeed true that mere book-learning may be, and often is, of little use. A "learned dunce" is a wretched creature. He has read—he knows. Yet the very "Paddy in the ditch" can do more than he!

The true end and use of education is, to enable us to act—to act with muscle and with mind—to work. Yes, to work, with every power of soul and body. He that knows best how to work—*i. e.*, to do what needs to be done, of whatever in kind—has the best education; and he that can *produce* most for use and beauty, for profit and comfort, for happiness and good to the human race, by thought or hand, by brain or muscle, or both combined, is the noblest hero—is worthy of the highest and most lasting honor.

Who has the best education, the man who has read all that pen ever wrote or type printed about building, who yet can not make a mortise or frame a tenon, or the man who does not know A from B, and yet can go into the mighty forests, level the massive trunks with the ground, and step by step, stroke by stroke, cause to rise from the earth a palace splendid in its beauty?

Though a man may have "all book-knowledge," yet if he can not use it well and nobly for himself and his kind, he's but a "learned fool"—a poor, helpless waif, floating upon the sea of chance.

"Creation's blot—creation's blank,
Whom none may bless—whom none may thank."

Young friend, beware!—be not thus a book-learned ninny; but in all your knowledge, let the question constantly be, what can I do?—how can I apply what I know so as thereby the better to serve my generation according to the will of God. More anon. PHILOM.

LISBON, Ind., Aug. 3, 1864.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

BY MRS. HARRIET BEECHER STOWE.

Little did the convention that nominated Abraham Lincoln for President know what they were doing. Little did the honest, fatherly, patriotic man, who stood in his simplicity on the platform at Springfield, asking the prayers of his townsmen and receiving their pledges to remember him, foresee how awfully he was to need those prayers, the prayers of all this nation and the prayers of all the working, suffering, common people throughout the world. God's hand was upon him with a visible protection, saving first from the danger of assassination at Baltimore, and bringing him safely to our National Capitol. Then the world have seen and wondered of the greatest sign and marvel of our day, to wit, a plain working man of the people, with no more culture, instruction or education than any such working man may obtain for himself, called on to conduct the passage of a great people through a crisis involving the destinies of the whole world. The eyes of princes, nobles, aristocrats, of dukes, earls, scholars, statesmen, warriors, all turned on the plain backwoodsman, with his simple sense, his imperturbable simplicity, his determined self-reliance, his impracticable and incorruptible honesty, as he sat amid the war of conflicting elements with unpretending steadiness, striving to guide the national ship through a channel at whose perils the world's oldest statesmen stood aghast. The brilliant courts of Europe leveled their opera glasses at the phenomenon. Fair ladies saw that he had homely hands and disdained white gloves. Dapper diplomatists were shocked at his system of etiquette, but old statesmen, who knew the terrors of that passage, were wiser than court ladies and dandy diplomatists, and watched him with a fearful curiosity, simply asking, "*Will* that awkward backwoodsman really get that ship through? If he does, it will be time for us to look about us."

Lincoln is a strong man, but his strength is of a peculiar kind; it is not aggressive so much as passive, and among passive things it is like the strength not so much of a stone buttress as of a wire cable. It is strength swaying to every influence, yielding on this side and on that to popular needs, yet tenaciously and inflexibly bound to carry its great end; and probably by no other kind of strength could our national ship have been drawn safely thus far during the tossings and tempests which beset her way.

Surrounded by all sorts of conflicting claims, by traitors, by half-hearted, timid men, by border State men and free State men, by radical abolitionists and conservatives, he has listened to all, weighed the words of all, waited, observed, yielded, now here and now there, but in the main kept inflexible, honest purpose, and drawn the national ship through.

In times of our trouble Abraham Lincoln has had his turn of being the best abused man of our nation. Like Moses leading his Israel through the wilderness, he has seen the day when every man seemed ready to stone him, and yet, with simple, wiry, steady perseverance, he has held on conscious of honest intentions, and looking to God for help. All the nations have felt, in the increasing solemnity of his Proclamations and papers, how deep an education was being wrought in his mind by this simple faith in God, the Ruler of the nations, and this humble willingness to learn the awful lessons of His providence. No man in this agony has suffered more and deeper, albeit with a dry, weary, patient pain, that seemed to some like insensibility. "Whichever way it ends," he said to the writer, "I have the impression that *I* shan't last long after it is over." After the dreadful repulse at Fredericksburg he is reported to have said, "If there is a man out of hell suffers more than I do, I pity him." In those dark days his heavy eyes and worn and weary air told how reverses wore upon him, and yet there was a never-failing fund of patience at the bottom, that sometimes rose to the surface in some droll, quaint saying or story, that forced a laugh even from himself.

There have been times with many, of impetuous impatience, when our national ship seemed to lie waterlogged, and we have called aloud for a deliverer of another fashion—a brilliant General, a dashing, fearless statesman, a man who could dare and do, who would stake all on a die, and win or lose by a brilliant *coup de main*. It may comfort our minds that, since He who ruleth in the armies of nations sets no such man at work, perhaps he saw in the man whom he did send some particular fitness and aptitude therefor.

Slow and careful in combining to resolutions, willing to talk to any person who had anything to show on any side of a disputed subject, long in weighing and pondering, attached to constitutional limits and time-honored landmarks, Lincoln certainly was the safest leader a nation could have at a time when the *habeas corpus* must be suspended, and all the constitutional and minor rights of citizens to be thrown into the hands of their military leader.

Among the many accusations which in hours of ill-luck have been thrown out upon Lincoln, it is remarkable that he has never been called self-seeking or selfish. When we were troubled, and sat in darkness, and looked doubtfully towards the Presidential chair, it was never that we doubted the good will of our pilot—only the clearness of his eye sight. But Almighty God has granted to him that clearness of vision which he gives to the true-hearted, and enabled him to set his honest foot in that promised land of freedom which is to be the patrimony of all men, black and white—and from henceforth nations shall rise up to call him blessed.—*Boston Watchman and Reflector.*

For the Journal.

EDUCATION.

MR. EDITOR—The popular idea of education is entirely too narrow. Most people suppose it to be simply knowledge obtained from books, or in school. Now, knowledge is rather the *means* of education than the thing itself.

Education is: The training of the faculties, both of body and mind. This is done in many ways, chiefly by the getting and the use of knowledge—mainly the latter.

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT July 25, '64.

By an act of Congress, approved June 30, 1864, the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to issue an amount not exceeding two hundred millions of dollars in Treasury notes, bearing interest at a rate not exceeding seven and three-tenths per centum, redeemable after three years from date and to exchange the same for lawful money. The Secretary is further authorized to convert the same into bonds, bearing interest at a rate not exceeding six per centum, payable in coin. In pursuance of the authority thus conferred, I now offer to the people of the United States Treasury notes as described in my advertisement dated July 25, 1864.

The circumstances under which this loan is asked for, and your aid invoked, though differing widely from the existing state of affairs three years ago, are such as to afford equal encouragement and security. Time, while proving that the struggle for national unity was to exceed in duration and severity our worst anticipations, has tested the national strength, and developed the national resources to an extent alike unexpected and remarkable, exciting equal astonishment at home and abroad. Three years of war have burdened you with a debt which, but three years since, would have seemed beyond your ability to meet. Yet the accumulated wealth and productive energies of the nation have proved to be so vast that it has been borne with comparative ease, and a peaceful future would hardly feel its weight. As a price paid for national existence, and the preservation of free institutions, it does not deserve a moment's consideration.

Thus far the war has been supported and carried on, as it only could have been, by a people resolved, at whatever cost of blood and treasure, to transmit, unimpaired to posterity, the system of free government bequeathed to them by the great men who framed it. This deliberate and patriotic resolve has developed a power surprising even to themselves. It has shown that in less than a century a nation has arisen, unsurpassed in vigor, and exhaustless in resources, able to conduct, through a series of years, war on its most gigantic scale, and finding itself, when near its close, almost unimpaired in all the material elements of power. It has, at the present moment, great armies in the field, facing an enemy apparently approaching a period of utter exhaustion, but still struggling with a force the greater and more desperate as it sees, and because it sees, the near approach of a final and fatal consummation. Such, in my deliberate judgment, is the present condition of the great contest for civil liberty in which you are now engaged.

Up to the present moment you have readily and cheerfully afforded the means necessary to support your government in this protracted struggle. It is *you*, war. You proclaimed it, and you have sustained it against traitors everywhere, with a patriotic devotion unsurpassed in the world's history.

The securities offered are such as should command your ready confidence. Much effort has been made to shake public faith in our national credit, both at home and abroad. As yet we have asked no foreign aid. Calm and self-reliant, our own means have thus far proved adequate to our wants. They are yet ample to meet those of the present and the future. It still remains for a patriotic people to furnish the needful supply. The brave men who are fighting our battles by land and sea must be fed and clothed, munitions of war of all kinds must be furnished, or the war must end in defeat and disgrace. This is not the time for any lover of his country to inquire as to the state of the money market, or ask whether he can so invest his surplus capital as to yield him a larger return. No return, and no profit, can be desirable, if followed by national dissolution, or national disgrace. Present profit, thus acquired, is but the precursor of future and speedy destruction. No investment can be so surely profitable as that which tends to insure the national existence.

I am encouraged in the belief that by the recent legislation of Congress our finances may soon be placed upon a sounder and more stable footing. The present deranged condition of the currency is imputable, in a great degree, to disturbances arising from the withdrawal of necessary checks, often inevitable in time of war, when expenditures must largely exceed any possible supply of coin. The opportunities thus presented to acquire sudden wealth have led to vicious speculation, a consequent increase in prices, and violent fluctuation. The remedy is to be found only in controlling the necessity which begets the evil. Hitherto we have felt the need of more extensive and vigorous taxation. Severe comment has been made upon what seemed to many an undue timidity and tardiness of action, on the part of Congress, in this regard. I deem it but just to say that very great misapprehension has existed and perhaps still exists, upon this point. Legislators, like all others, have much to learn in a new condition of affairs. An entirely new system was to be devised, and that system must necessarily be the growth of time and experience. It is not strange that first efforts should have proved imperfect and inadequate. To lay heavy burdens on a great and patriotic people in such a manner as to be equal, and as to occasion the least amount of suffering or annoyance, requires time and caution, and vast labor; and, with all these, experience is needful to test the value of the system, and correct its errors. Such has been the work which Congress was called upon to perform. I am happy to say that daily results are proving the Internal Revenue Act to exceed in efficiency the most sanguine expectations of its authors. In the month of June, 1863, it yielded about four and one half millions of dollars, while the corresponding month of this year returned about fifteen millions, under the same law. Under the new law, which went into operation on the first day of the present month, the Teasury not unfrequently receives one million a day.

As time and experience enable the officers employed in collecting the revenue to enforce the stringent provisions of the new law, I trust that a million per day will be found the rule and not the exception. Still, much space is undoubtedly left for improvement in the law, and in its administration, as a greater amount of necessary information is acquired. The proper sources of revenue, and the most effective modes of obtaining it, are best developed in the execution of existing law. And I have caused measures to be initiated which will, it is believed, enable Congress so to improve and enlarge the system as, when taken in connection with the revenue from customs, and other sources, to afford an ample and secure basis for the national credit. Only on such a basis, and in a steady and vigorous restraint upon currency, can a remedy be found for existing evils. Such restraint can only be exercised when the government is furnished with means to provide for its necessities. But without the aid of a patriotic people, any government is powerless, for this or any other desirable end.

The demonstrations of the notes proposed to be issued, ranging from fifty to five thousand dollars, place these securities within the reach of all who are disposed to aid their country. For their redemption the faith and honor and property of that country are solemnly pledged. A successful issue to this contest, now believed to be near at hand, will largely enhance their value to the holder; and peace once restored, all burdens can be lightly borne. He who selfishly witholds his aid in the hope of turning his available means to greater immediate profit, is speculating upon his country's misfortunes, and may find that what seems to be present gain leads only to future loss. I appeal, therefore, with confidence to a loyal patriotic people, and invoke the efforts of all who love their country, and desire for it a glorious future, to aid their government in sustaining its credit, and placing that credit upon a stable foundation.

W. P. FESSENDEN,
Secretary of the Treasury.

The War for the Union---What we Have Gained, and What we Have Yet to Do.

"What have you gained by this fratricidal war?" is the familiar inquiry of that incurable partisan whose hostility to the "powers that be" has carried him and his sympathies over to the enemy. "What have you gained from this unholy crusade for the subjugation of the South? How much nearer are you to Richmond than you were in the summer of 1862? How much longer can you sustain these annual drafts of 500,000 men, and this war expenditure of a thousand millions a year?"

Let us briefly endeavor to answer these questions in good faith, conceding the point that we have lost much in men, time, means and money, that might have been saved had the war been more vigorously and wisely prosecuted than it has been. First, then, we turn to the inquiry. "What have we gained by this war?" We have gained in territory one-half the domains claimed as belonging to the so-called "Confederate States." In the last rebel Congress the States represented were Virginia, Kentucky, Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas—thirteen—when the whole section of country now under the actual occupation and authority of Davis and his confederates has been reduced to the interior portions of the last eight States above-named. The northern military line of the rebellion, which, in 1861, ran north-westward from Manassas to Kentucky, and thence through the heart of that State to Columbus, on the Mississippi river, a thousand miles and more above the sea, has been pushed so far down into Georgia as to threaten the complete isolation of all the "Confederacy" north of the Savanah river from the States below. From Columbus to the Gulf of Mexico, overcoming numerous armies, and a chain of fortifications, armed flotillas, rafts, rams and other obstructions unparalleled in the defenses of any other river of modern or ancient times, the Mississippi has been reopened and occupied, and is now in the absolute and permanent occupation of the Government.

Thus that half of the Davis Confederacy which lies west of the Mississippi is in the condition of a wing of an army hopelessly cut off from the main body, so that, in a practical military view, we have reduced the vital forces of the rebellion to the interior portions of the single tier of States, and parts of States, lying between Richmond and Mobile.

So much for the territory recovered, in a military estimate, practically. In the population reclaimed from the rebellion we have gained two-thirds of its original strength, and in the valuable resources for peace or war, wrested from the enemy, our gains have been correspondingly great. Nor do these constitute all our gains. In the beginning of this war the rebel leaders, from the commercial power of King Cotton, confidently counted upon a timely coalition from England and France, upon the destruction of our commerce on the high seas, and the raising of the blockade by a numerous fleet of foreign-built privateers and iron-clads, and upon the active armed co-operation of a powerful division of the Northern Democracy. We have gained the neutrality of England, which secures the neutrality of France; there is but one rebel privateer now left dodging about upon the high seas; the iron-clads built for the enemy are out of the way, and as for a rising of the Northern peace Democracy, in support of King Jeff, we dare say that they are fully convinced it would not begin to pay expenses.

All these things we have gained—one-half the original area claimed by the rebellion, two-thirds of its population, two-thirds of its most valuable military resources and lines of communication, including the whole line of the Mississippi river, the dethronement of King Cotton, the neutrality of England and France, and the substantial unity of the great North and the loyal States of the South upon this grand, paramount and supreme Jacksonian idea that "the Union must and shall be preserved." If we have changed the issue from 19,000,000 of people against 12,000,000, to 27,000,000 of people against less than 5,000,000, is it not manifest that we have gained enough to insure our final success, and as the crowning reward of the present campaign?—*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper.*